



Canada Border
Services Agency

Agence des services
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Refugee Claims Analysis Report (RCAR)

Mid-year 2018 (January to June)

Current Intelligence and Analysis Section
Intelligence Operations and Analysis Division
Enforcement and Intelligence Operations Directorate

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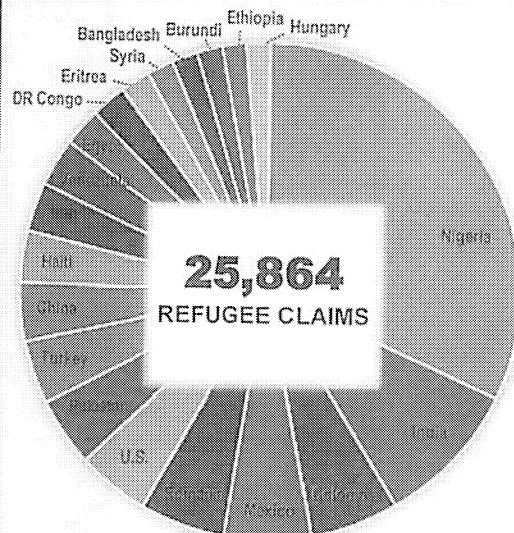
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MID-YEAR 2018 REFUGEE CLAIMS ANALYSIS REPORT

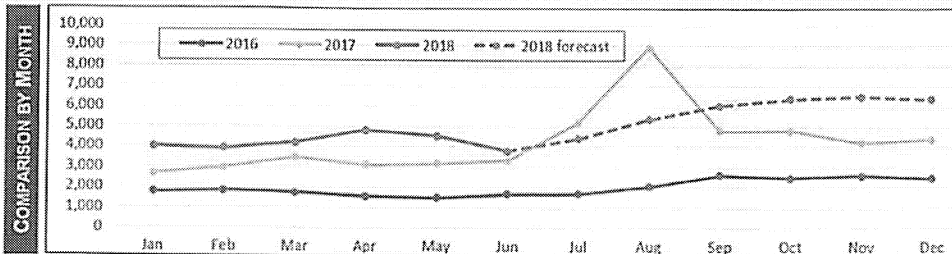
Mid-year 2018 saw a **39%** increase in refugee claims over mid-year 2017 with a significant number of persons entering Canada **between the ports (BTP)**.

Top 20 Source Countries for Refugee Claims



Mode Breakdown
 (Top Source Country & Number of Claims)

(Inland) (Land Border)	13,075 or 50% (Nigeria, 2,264)	(Land Border) (Land Border)	9,574 or 37% (Nigeria, 3,843)
(Airport)	3,205 or 12% (Romania, 844)	(Marine) (Marine)	10 or < 1% (Albania, 3)



Claims more than doubled for five of the top 20 source countries (Nigeria, India, Romania, Iran, and Egypt). Claims across most nationalities grew in the first half of 2018.

KEY MOVEMENTS & FACTORS

<p>U.S.</p> <p>♦ The top x-factor influencing migration to Canada is increased enforcement on migration in the United States (U.S.). In 2018, key U.S. policy changes include termination of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designations, family separation at Southern border, and possible end of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).</p>	<p>FRAUD</p> <p>♦ Organized movements are confirmed for nationals of Nigeria, China and India. Organized movements continue to obtain U.S. Non-immigrant Visas (USNIVs) and Temporary Resident Visas (TRVs) by using fraudulent supporting documents or inaccurate reasons for travel. Fraudulent or counterfeit TRVs and passports are also used.</p>
<p>BTP</p> <p>♦ The BTP movement in the Quebec region remained strong during the first half of 2018 and will continue throughout the year—42% of all claimants were intercepted entering BTP, mainly in Quebec. Meanwhile, BTP interceptions declined significantly in British Columbia (-22%) and Manitoba (-66%).</p>	<p>ROMANIA</p> <p>♦ Arrivals of Romanian nationals increased dramatically after visa requirements were lifted on December 1, 2017. Most claims were based on Roma ethnicity and filed at airports with visa-waived travel.</p>
<p>NIGERIA</p> <p>♦ Nigerian claimants account for 24% of overall claims for mid-year 2018. Most claims were entered via land border, followed by inland offices, and relate to family and gender-based violence.</p>	<p>TRV</p> <p>♦ Various nationals obtain TRVs with the intention of going to Canada to file a refugee claim. Claims are mainly filed at airports or inland offices.</p>
	<p>DOWNSTREAM MIGRATION</p> <p>♦ Persons arrived in Canada after spending months or even years in secondary countries such as the U.S., Saudi Arabia or countries in Europe. Top citizenships include: Haiti, Syria, Somalia</p>

TOP BASIS OF CLAIM

POLITICAL PERSECUTION	Turkey, Syria, India, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Iran, Venezuela, Haiti, Bangladesh, Egypt, Eritrea, Burundi	RELIGIOUS & SECTARIAN VIOLENCE	Egypt, Iraq, Syria, China, Pakistan, Iran, Nigeria, Eritrea, India, Bangladesh	FAMILY & GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE	Nigeria, India, Iran, Colombia, US, Venezuela, Egypt, DR Congo, Eritrea
ETHNIC PERSECUTION	Hungary, Romania, Turkey, China, Ethiopia	ORGANISED CRIME VIOLENCE	Mexico, Colombia, Haiti	LGBTQ2 DISCRIMINATION	Nigeria, India, Colombia, Ethiopia, Venezuela

SERIOUS INADMISSIBILITIES

Security Grounds—Colombia
 Criminality—Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Romania, U.S.
 Organized Criminality—Peru

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Refugee claims are on track to reach the forecasted **61,000** in 2018. It is expected that the top source countries will include Nigeria, India, Colombia, Mexico and Romania.

The **BTP** movement, mainly in the QUE region, will continue in the latter half of 2018. Claims from Nigeria will likely increase again in the fall following a summer lull. After obtaining USNIVS, nationals of Colombia, Pakistan and Turkey will cross at Roxham Road. U.S. claimants will continue to be the children of Nigerian, Haitian and Syrian nationals who resided long-term in the US.

NIGERIA

With over 300% increase in refugee claims from mid-year 2017, it is expected that claims filed by nationals of Nigeria will continue to grow in 2018. It is highly likely that claims will reach 10,000 given current conditions along with the upcoming presidential election.

INDIA

Claims from Indian nationals increased by 246% from mid-year 2017 and are projected to continue to rise to 3,700 in 2018. Indian nationals will continue to file the majority of their claims inland after arriving on TRVs. High rates of TRV fraud and travel document fraud will persist.

AMERICAS

The Americas will continue to be a significant source region for claims in the latter half 2018. The top source countries are expected to be: Mexico, Colombia and Venezuela. El Salvador will be a key country to watch. Notably, a number of nationals will file claims at the land border mainly in SOR.

EUROPE

Rising popularity of far right, anti-migrant sentiment in countries such as Italy is likely to increase downstream migration, mainly from Turkey, Romania and Hungary.

ASIA

Political and religious-based persecution by governments will push minorities out of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and China.

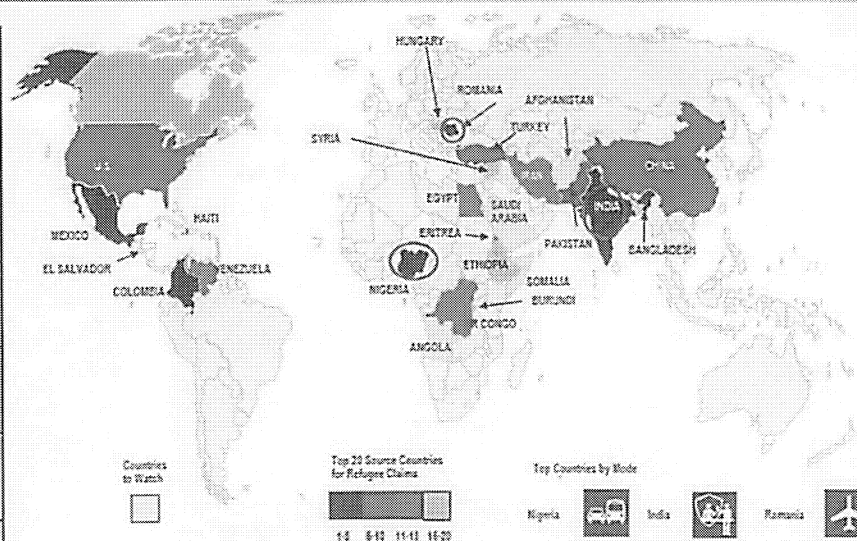
AFRICA

Top source countries are expected to be: Nigeria, Somalia, DR Congo, and Angola. While claims from Ethiopia continue to grow, the effects of improved bilateral relations with Eritrea can be expected to reduce claims entered on the basis of conflict and forced military conscription.

MIDDLE EAST

War, sectarianism, political persecution, and extremist activity in the Middle East will continue to prompt outward migration. Top source countries by the end of 2018 are expected to include Syria, Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan. Saudization also remains a key factor and will continue to contribute to secondary movements.

ANTICIPATED	Means of entry	Top Source Countries
ATLANTIC	• TRV	• Nigeria; • Iraq; • Syria.
QUEBEC	• BTP • eTA	• Nigeria; • India; • Mexico.
GTA	• TRV • eTA	• Nigeria; • Romania; • China.
NOR	• TRV	• Burundi; • DR Congo; • Egypt.
SOR	• Land Border	• Colombia; • Turkey; • Pakistan.
PRAIRIE	• BTP	• Somalia; • Venezuela; • Pakistan.
PACIFIC	• BTP & TRV	• Afghanistan; • Iran; • Mexico.



The U.S. stance towards migration will continue to be a key factor influencing refugee claim numbers. Upcoming midterm elections in November 2018 can be expected to impact the movement of claimants into Canada in 2019. Congressional gains by the Democratic party in particular could reduce irregular border crossings due to potential changes in DACA legislation and TPS designations. If the U.S. maintains its current political course, it is anticipated that both legal and irregular migration to the country will continue to be increasingly restrictive, causing migrants to make their final destination to Canada in 2019 and 2020.

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Refugee Claims Analysis Report (RCAR) - Notes

The following report provides statistical information on the top 20 source countries for refugee claims in Canada for mid-year 2018 (January 1 to June 30), coupled with trend analysis, examination of push, pull and x-factors as well as forecasts for 2018-2019. It consists of statistics from the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and should not be taken as belonging solely to the CBSA.

Regions

- Atlantic (ATL)
- Northern Ontario (NOR)
- Pacific (PAC)
- Québec (QUE)
- Southern Ontario (SOR)
- Greater Toronto Area (GTA)
- Prairie (PRA)

Migration Statistic Section

Visas is a general term used to refer to the total Temporary Resident Visas (TRVs), study permits, work permits, Temporary Resident Permits (TRPs), Visitor Records (VRs) and all extensions that have been issued for entry into Canada; this does not include the total number of applications received or electronic Travel Authorizations (eTAs) issued.

Inadmissibility reports issued refers to the number of inadmissibility reports issued for serious concerns under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (IRPA) which consist of sections 34 (national security), 35 (crimes against humanity), 36(1) (serious criminality), 36(2) (criminality) and 37 (organized crime).

Removals refers to the number of foreign nationals, including failed refugee claimants, removed to their country of origin or other destination countries as defined in the IRPA and its regulations.

Overseas interceptions refers to the total number of fraudulent interceptions; the liaison officer (LO) has grounds to suspect fraud and the air carrier is provided a "no board" recommendation. This does not include technical interceptions where an LO has provided a "no board" recommendation due to a technical, regulatory or otherwise non-fraudulent reason (e.g. expired passport).

Between the Port (BTP) interceptions refers to the total number of interceptions of persons who entered Canada at a place other than a port of entry (POE) at the land border.

Top 3 Diasporas in Canada

These locations are based on information from the Statistics Canada - 2016 National Household Survey.

Time Periods

- Quarter (1) - Q(1) - January, February and March;
- Quarter (2) - Q(2) - April, May and June;
- Quarter (3) - Q(3) - July, August and September;
- Quarter (4) - Q(4) - October, November and December;
- 2017 - January 1 to December 31, 2017;
- 2016 - January 1 to December 31, 2016;
- mid-year 2018 - January 1 to June 30, 2018;
- mid-year 2017 - January 1 to June 30, 2017.

Gender

- Adult Female (Female)
- Adult Male (Male)

Data Extraction

Information on refugee claims for this report was retrieved from the for the periods of January 1 to June 30, 2018, January 1 to December 31, 2017 and January 1 to December 31, 2016. Data was pulled July 5, 2018*.

Information on visas was provided by the CBSA Performance Reporting Unit (PRU) and IRCC - OPS-STATS, for the period of January 1 to June 30, 2018, as of July 3, 2018* and June 29, 2018* respectively.

Information on inadmissibility reports issued for serious concerns was retrieved from the for the period of January 1 to June 30, 2018. Data was pulled August 8, 2018*.

Information on removals was provided by the CBSA Removals Program, for the period of January 1 to June 30, 2018, as of July 6, 2018*.

Information on overseas interceptions was provided by the CBSA International Operations - International Network Support - Priorities, Performance Management and Reporting Section, for the period of January 1 to June 30, 2018, as of July 10, 2018*.

Information on BTP interceptions was provided by IRCC for the period of April 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. This information is based on persons coded in the Global Case Management System (GCMS) as persons who entered Canada BTP. This code was not available in GCMS prior to April 2017.

*Any subsequent data changes in the system were not captured.

Countries to Watch

This section will detail five countries that did not make the top 20 source countries for refugee claims in Canada for mid-year 2018, but for a variety of reasons, such as an increasing number of refugee claims and country conditions, were deemed as countries to watch in 2018-2019. Similar to the top 20 source countries, statistical information as well as some basic trend analysis, and push, pull and x-factors will be detailed.

Arrow Legend

	Indicates refugee claims have increased over mid-year 2017.		Indicates refugee claims have decreased compared to mid-year 2017.		Indicates refugee claims are either equal or almost equal to mid-year 2017.
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